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CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**COUNTRY Polish Occupied Germany Poland REPORTTOPIC 1. Troops and Military Installations in Mohrunen (Morag)2. Training of the Territorial Force

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 5 May 1955REFERENCES

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PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to October 1954, the large barracks installation 250 meters north of the Mohrunen (Q 54/E 27) railroad station and west of the thoroughfare toward Koenigsberg quartered Polish Army troops who wore red service color. It has been occupied by these troops for some years. The respective occupation of the two sections of this installation which were the former Artillerie Kaserne and the former Infanterie Kaserne was unspecified. No major war damages were observed from outside. Only the former officers' mess just south of the installation was burned. In October 1954, from 25 to 30 horses which were tied to walls were observed in the western section of the installation which was the former Infanterie Kaserne. The entire installation was apparently occupied to capacity. The Polish Army soldiers who wore red service color were also seen in the streets in the little town of Mohrunen.
2. At an unspecified date in the fall of 1953, Polish troops who came from Mohrunen and carried field packs marched through Sonnenborn (Q 54/E 26). At about that time, they held field exercises in the area around the town of Venedien (Q 54/E 27). Troops observed at that time included infantrymen marching on foot, who carried field packs and small arms, a motor column whose vehicles were insufficient to carry all the troops, horse-drawn field kitchens, horse-drawn ambulances, and horse-drawn canvas-covered waggons travelling in a march column about 1 kilometer long. No armored vehicles nor guns were observed on this occasion. The area around Venedien was allegedly frequently used for exercises which involved troops from Mohrunen. All soldiers observed at these exercises were young men. It was never mentioned that soldiers came to Mohrunen for short-term training. In the fall, on the occasion of the potato harvest, and sometimes also in

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summer during the period of the grain harvest, young Polish soldiers who wore red service color and came from the barracks installations in Mohrunge worked as harvesters in the country. They arrived and left on trucks. Prior to October 1954, the every-day training ground of the Mohrunge station was located in the area of the former German Army station training ground west of the city and north of the railroad line near the Neuhof (Q 54/E 27) estate.

3. Prior to the fall of 1954, a multi-story former grain silo whose interior facilities were improved in the fall of 1954 was observed just northwest of the railroad station. It housed a military ration supply depot which was guarded by sentries of the Polish Army. The installation was equipped with a railroad spur which led to the railroad station. A store for Polish military personnel was located in the central sector of the city.¹
4. The only son of a Polish farmer's family whose father was still completely fit for work was deferred from active military service and required to do service only in the territorial force. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] He was trained for the first time at Muschaken (R 54/E 71) in 1953, while he took part in the second training course from 23 June 1954 to early October 1954. Another Polish farmer's son from Sonnenborn who was subjected to the same training served for the first time in 1954 in Muschaken. The points of view which governed selection for the territorial force were unknown. In any case, this policy displeased the population. Individuals whose sons were obliged to serve two years were indignant because these youngsters were only called up for short-term training courses despite their Polish nationality. In January 1953, a young German who was a resident of Sonnenborn was inducted and assigned to a labor battalion in Warsaw where he worked as a mason. After serving a total term of 21 months, he returned to his home town. In the fall of 1954, another German of Sonnenborn served with a labor battalion near Katowice (Q 51/Y 57). On 6 October 1954, registrations were held in the Mohrunge town hall for members of the 1930 through 1934 classes. Germans and Poles had to appear at the same time. 2

5. Prior to the fall of 1954, the billeting area in Mohrunge which included two former German Army barracks installations was observed as a joint installation. At about the same time, a newly constructed story was observed atop of one of the buildings. The other buildings of the installation were unchanged compared to their condition under the Germans. The billeting area quartered an infantry unit and an artillery unit. Units which were equipped with small arms were frequently observed marching on foot in the area of the city. Trucks which were occupied by soldiers were occasionally also observed. All soldiers wore army uniforms and red service color. For the last time, an artillery unit of 8 to 10 guns which were towed by trucks was observed passing through Mohrunge in 1953. The type of the guns was unspecified. In any case, the height of the guns each of which had two rubber-tired wheels exceeded that of AT guns. These guns also had shorter and thicker barrels. It was believed that the same troops were still in the station area in 1954.

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6. The gutted and reconstructed grain silo just northwest of the railroad station was used as an army ration supply depot. The area of the installation also included sheds with cement and building materials, coal yards, and potato pits. The depot was guarded by sentries of the army. 1

1. Comment. No previous information on the occupation of the Mohrunge station is known. The units stationed at Mohrunge possibly belong to the 15th Rifle Div whose headquarters is located in Allenstein. The situation is still undetermined.

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2. Comment. Basic service in the territorial force under universal military training is based on provisions of the UMT Act dating from 4 February 1950. Terms of service in the territorial force include four months in the first year, and two months in each of the three following years. They can also be extended or limited for cause, however. The bulk of the 1934 class had been registered and inducted in 1954. In so far as older classes have been registered in the fall of 1954, they presumably have been mainly individuals subject to the draft who had originally been deferred from military service.

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